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I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 2309/01158

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Takayuki HISANAKA

Serial No.: 09/761,511

Confirmation No.: 5640

Filed: January 16, 2001

For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE CONTAINING SKIN-PROTECTIVE INGREDIENT

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and

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that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

Since some of the documents were known to the applicant for more than three months before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, the statutory fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required in connection with this Petition or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

The undersigned is also enclosing herewith an English translation of each of the foreign language documents identified in Form PTO-1449. It is believed that the applicant in the above-identified patent application has therefore met the "concise explanation" requirement of 35 C.F.R. 1.98.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a

complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 10, 2002



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